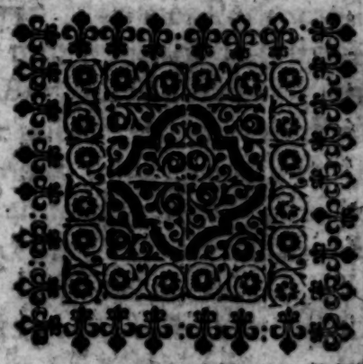
AN ACT
OF THE
CONVENTION
OF
ESTATES:

For putting the Kingdome into a Posture of
DEFENCE,

For strengthening the ARMIE,

AND

Providing of ARMES *and* AMMUNITION
to the Kingdome.



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Printed by Evan Tyler, *Printer to the Kings most Excellent Majestie.* 1644.

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AT
EDINBURGH,
The first day of FEBRUARY.
1644.

WHereas by many laudable Acts of Parliament all the ſubjects of the Kingdome are ordained to be ſufficiently armed, and to be in readineſſe for compeſeing inteſtine Inſurrections, and oppoſing forraigne Invaſion, Like as the Eſtates of this Kingdome at their laſt meeting in September 1643. taking to their conſideration the imminent dangers of the true Proteſtant Religion, his Majeſties Perſon and Authority, and Peace of his Kingdomes, by multitudes of Papiſts, Prelates, and their adherents, now in Arms in *England* and *Ireland*, and the occaſion thereby given, not onely to the publike enemies of Religion abroad, but even to any diſaffected perſons at home, to labour (ſo farre as in them lyes) to ſubvert the Religion and Peace now happily eſtabliſhed in this Kingdome, Did finde it neceſſary that all meanes be ſpeedily uſed for preventing the practices of ſuch, for preſerving of the Peace, and keeping of his Majeſties Subjects in a dutifull obedience to the Lawes and publike Judicatories, and in Chriſtian unitie amongſt themſelves; And did therefore ordaine that the Kingdome ſhould be preſently put into a Poſture of Defence, and did nominate and chooſe certain perſons to be Colonels of Horſe and Foot, and appoint Committees within the ſeverall Sheriffdomes and bounds of this Kingdome to that effect: With power to them to take ſpeciall triall, and make perfect Liſts of the whole ſenſible perſons betwixt ſixtie and ſixteene within their Shires, for Foot or Horſe, and to have a ſpeciall care to ſee them provided with Armes.

And the Eſtates now preſently conveened, conſidering that the deſolations of *Ireland*, the blood-ſhed in *England*, and dangers of this

Kingdome do daily increaſe, which hath moved this Kingdome to ſet forth an Armie in purſuance of the Covenant, and whereby alſo great numbers of Arms and Ammunition are taken forth of the Countrey: In regard whereof, and to the effect this Kingdome may be enabled to ſuppreſſe all Inteſtine Commotions, recrute the Armie ſent forth (if need bee) and defend themſelves againſt forraign Invaſion, The ſaids Eſtates have Statute and Ordained, and heereby Statutes and Ordaines the Colonells and Committees of Warre foreſaid appointed in each Shire to Muſter all the ſenſible perſons within the Shire upon one day, every Pariſh within ſome part of the bounds of their ſeverall Presbyteries, to be deſigned by the ſaids Committees and Colonels, by whom ſome are to be appointed to make up the Liſt of the ſaids ſenſible perſons armed and unarmed: ſo as it may be knowne that none ſhall borrow Armes from others, and how many, and what ſort of Arms are wanting, and to be provided for every Shire: The Muſters of theſe beſouth Dee, to be betwixt and the laſt of February next to come, and the report thereof to the Committee of Eſtates betwixt and the 15. day of March thereafter: And the Muſters of theſe benorth Dee, to be betwixt and the 10. day of March, and the report to the Committee betwixt and the laſt day of the ſaid Moneth. And that the Burrows within the bounds *reſpectivè* foreſaids, make their Muſters within themſelves, conforme to the former Act of Convention anent the Poſture of Defence, and make their reports accordingly. And if after report it ſhall be found by the Committee of Eſtates that there are more Arms wanting then are ſent out with the Armie, that the Shire in that caſe ſhall onely be obliged to furniſh ſo many Armes as are ſent forth: and the Committees of Warre are to diſtribute the ſaids Armes among theſe who want, in the moſt equall and leaſt prejudiciall way they think expedient. And the ſaids perſons to whom they ſhall diſtribute the ſame ſhall be obliged to receive and pay for the ſaids Arms, under the paine of payment of the double of the price of the ſame.

And it is hereby declared, That whether the Muſters be perfected or not, at the dayes *reſpectivè* foreſaids (which the Eſtates do ſeriouſly recommend to the care of the ſaids Colonels and Committees) yet at the Dyets above ſpecified, aſſigned for report, they ſhall be obliged to ſend ſome perſons to the Committee of Eſtates with Money, or ſuretie for providing as many Arms, *viz.* Muskets, Picks, Swords and Piſtols, as they have ſent forth in this preſent Expedition, together with three pound weight of Powder, three pound weight of Ball, and ſix pound weight of Match for every Musket; or elſe give aſſurance at the ſaid day of report, that they ſhall provide the ſame themſelves betwixt and a competent day to be aſſigned by the Committee of Eſtates.

And that there may be a ſufficient number of trained men, who can exerciſe their Arms in each Shire or Burgh for the ends foreſaids. The ſaids Eſtates ordaines the Colonels and Committees foreſaids, and Magiſtrates of Burgh to reduce the whole ſenſible perſons within their bounds, as well to Burgh as Landwart, into Regiments, foot Companies

panies, and horſe Troups, according to the former printed Acts of the Convention, for putting the Kingdome in a poſture of defence. And ordaines that the like number of men in each Shire and Burgh, as were appointed to come out in the preſent expedition, be drelled and exerciſed in handling their Arms, every Regiment once in the moneth, every Company and Troup once in the week, at the places to be appointed by the ſaids Colonels and Committees, and Magiſtrates within Burgh. And that each Shire and Burgh ſhall entertain an able and expert Souldier, who ſhall have the care and inſpection of exerciſing the Regiments and Companies of that Shire or Burgh. And that they take ſuch courſe for inferiour Officers, as may beſt with leaſt expence exerciſe their men. And they are hereby alſo required to ſee the Captains of each Company provided with Colours and Drummes, and the Root-Maſters with Trumpets and Cornets, who are to bee in readineſſe upon orders from the Committee of Eſtates, to bring forth ſuch number and proportion of their Regiments, with ſufficient furniture, Arms, and Proviſion, as they ſhall be required. And whereas now the Armie is marched into *England*; it is therefore thought fit and expedient, concluded and ordained by the ſaids Eſtates, that theſe in the Northerne and remote parts of the Kingdome, who have not gone forth in this preſent expedition, ſhall preſently put forth the particular numbers of horſe and foot after ſpecified, ſufficiently provided with Arms, Ammunition, and Baggage horſes, and all ſort of furniture, according to the former printed orders, *viz.* Out of the Sheriffdomes of Bamff, and that part of Aberdene, which is not under the Earle Marſhels command, one thouſand ſix hundred foot, and two hundred and fourty horſe, whereof the Lord Gordon is Colonell: together alſo with one hundred and twenty horſe out of the Sheriffdoms of Elgine, Narne, and that part of Innerneſſe on this ſide of Neſſe: And 120. horſe out of the Earle of Seaforts diviſion of Innerneſſe: And one hundred and twenty horſe out of the Earle of Sutherlands part of Innerneſſe and Caithneſſe, which are alſo under the command of the ſaid Lord Gordon: And out of that part of the Sheriffdome of Aberdene, in the Earle *Mariſchalls* diviſion, the proportion of men layed upon the ſame, to come out under the ſaid Earle their Colonell: And out of the ſaids Sheriffdomes of Elgine, Narne, and part of Innerneſſe, on this ſide of the Neſſe, one thouſand five hundred foot, under the command of the Earle of Murray their Colonell. Out of the Earle of Seafort, and Lord Lovalts diviſion of Innerneſſe, one thouſand foot, under the command of *Thomas Mackeinzie* of Pluſcarden their Colonell. Out of the Earle of Sutherlands part of Innerneſſe and Caithneſſe, one thouſand ſix hundred foot, under the command of the Earle of Sutherland their Colonell: And out of the Sheriffdome of Orknay, one thouſand foot, under the command of

And the ſaids Eſtates ordaines the Committees of War, and Colonels within the bounds particularly above-written, to uſe their utmoſt endeavours with all poſſible ſpeed, to bring forth the numbers of men, horſe & foot

foot above-written *respective*, furnished with Arms, Baggage Horses, and Ammunition Horses, and all other furniture prescribed by the former printed orders, and to make their Rendezvous at Berwick, upon the tenth day of March next, where they shall receive their further directions from the Lord Generall and Committees of Estates: As they will not be esteemed Enemies to Religion, his Majesties true honour and happinesse, and peace and safety of this Kingdome; and under the pain to be pursued before the Convention of Estates, or the ensuing Parliament, or their Committees, for their neglect or delay in this so great and important a Work.

And further the saids Estates ordaines that the half of the number formerly appointed to come forth out of the Burghs, Shires, and divisions thereof, in this present expedition, shall now be brought out of the same sufficiently provided, according to the former orders, both horse and foot with Baggage Horses, Ammunition Horses, and all other furniture, and to be in readinesse to march upon foure dayes warning: As also to be leavyed and transported upon advancement of the Taxt and Loane within each Shire, if the same be not exhausted upon the former leavyes, and where there is none of the said Loane, that they be leavyed and transported as the Committee of Estates shall direct, to be an auxiliary supply to the Army. And the saids Estates declare that in whatsoever Shire this supply shall come to a full Regiment, and where there is a Colonell already nominate, He is to go out with the said Regiment, and the remanent Officers thereof to be nominate by the Committee of the Shire with his advice. And where the supply shall not be a full Regiment, but must be adjoyned to the supply of another, or of a third Shire to compleat the Regiment; In that case the Colonell of the Shire, out of which the greatest number comes, is to go out as Colonell of the Regiment thus made up, and if there be none already nominate, he is to be chosen by the Committee of That Shire, and the Lieutenant Colonell to be chosen by the Committee of the Shire, who sends out the next proportion; and the Major by the Shire and Committee thereof, which sends out the least proportion; and where there is any difference, the same to be referred to the Committee of Estates; and the under-Officers and Captaines, by the severall Committees and Shires, who sends out the Companies with power also to the saids Committees, where there is no Colonels for putting the Shire in a posture of defence, or shall be none after the out-going of this supply, to nominate Colonels for that effect. And for the better and more expedit execution of the orders of the Convention and their Committee, and of the Committees of Warre: with power to the saids Committees of Warre, where they shall finde expedient, to make Sub-Committees in severall Presbyteries consisting of some of the said Committee of Warre, unto whom they shall adjoyne some persons best affected within the saids Presbyteries, who are to be answerable for their proceedings to the saids Committees of Warre, and they to be answerable both for their own carriage, and the deportment of the saids Sub-Committees to the

Committee

Committee of Eſtates. As alſo with power to them to call and conveene before them all delinquents and tranſgreſſours of their orders, or of the orders of the Convention and Committee of Eſtates; and to cenſure and puniſh them by impriſonment, fining, or other arbitrary pain, as they ſhall finde the merit of the cauſe and condition of the delinquents to require. And in ſpeciall, to fine theſe who have not or ſhall not hereafter put out their Footmen in an hundred pounds, and their Horſemen, Baggage Horſes, and Ammunition Horſes in foure hundred Marks, and to direct their precepts to meſſengers of Arms, to poind and diſtrenzie for the ſame, and to be comptable for the fines to the Committee of Eſtates. And becauſe this great Work hath heretofore ſuffered, and may hereafter ſuffer no ſmall prejudice by the unfrequent meetings of the Committees of Warre, and abſence of divers of them from the ſame; as alſo by the uncertainty of their dyets: The Eſtates therefore ordaines the ſaids Committees of Warre, to appoint certain ordinary dyets upon ſome ſet dayes in the week: and at their meetings in every Seſſion, to marke their Sederunts, and to ſend a note thereof, and of the ordinary dayes of their meetings and proceedings to the Committee of Eſtates once every moneth at leaſt, and oftner as they ſhall be required, wherethrough the better correſpondence may be keeped betwixt them and the Committee of Eſtates, and the ſervice may be more expeditly promoved: and that they fine the abſents from their meetings, the Gentleman in ten ſhillings, and the Burgeſſe in five ſhillings ſterling, *toties quoties*; and uplift the ſame by poinding; and make compt thereof to the ſaid Committee of Eſtates: Wherein if they failzie, the ſaid Committee ſhall pay the double of the ſaids unlawes. And the Convention recommends to the Committee of Eſtates, to ſee this Act put to ſpeedy and exact execution: With power for this effect to do every thing that may further the execution thereof, and put the Kingdome in a right and ſpeedy poſture of defence. This Act to be without prejudice of any former orders made for the price of Arms, put out in this expedition.

Arch. Primeroſe.

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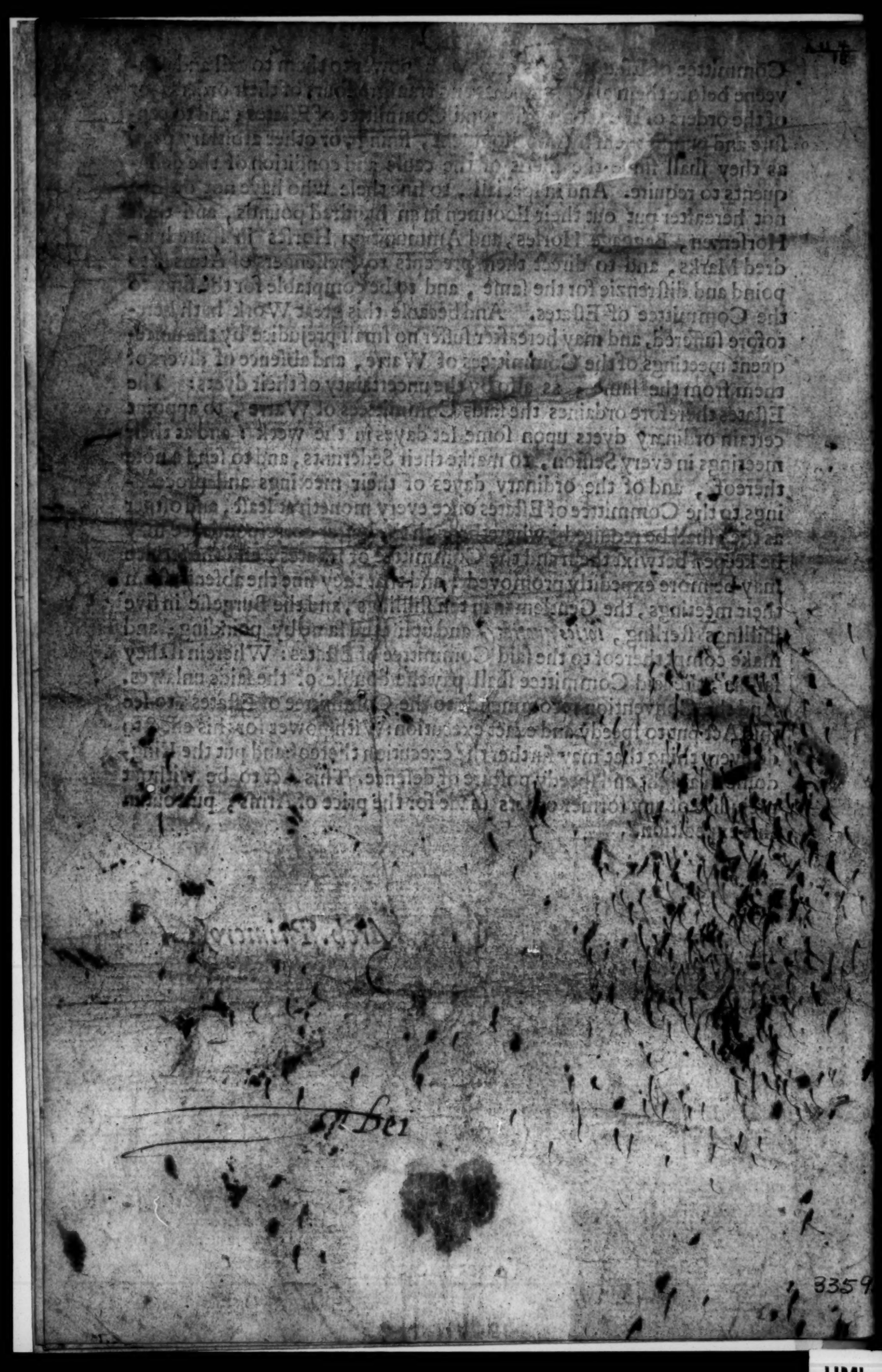

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